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2	The Committee on Government Operations to which was referred House
3	Bill No. 913 entitled "An act relating to boards and commissions" respectfully
4	reports that it has considered the same and recommends that the Senate
5	propose to the House that the bill be amended by striking out all after the
6	enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:
7	* * * Merger of Groundwater and Well Water Committees * * *
8	Sec. 1. 10 V.S.A. § 1392 is amended to read:
9	§ 1392. DUTIES; POWERS OF SECRETARY
10	(a) The Secretary shall develop a comprehensive groundwater management
11	program to protect the quality of groundwater resources by:
12	* * *
13	(c)(1) The Secretary shall establish a groundwater coordinating committee,
14	with representation from the Division of Drinking Water and Groundwater
15	Protection within the Department, the Division of Geology and Mineral
16	Resources within the Department, the Agency of Agriculture, Food and
17	Markets, and the Departments of Forests, Parks and Recreation and of Health
18	to provide advice in the development of the program and its implementation,

on issues concerning groundwater quality and quantity, and on groundwater

issues relevant to well-drilling activities and the licensure of well drillers.

1	(2) In carrying out his or her duties under this subchapter, the Secretary
2	shall give due consideration to the recommendations of the groundwater
3	coordinating committee.
4	(3) The Secretary may request representatives of other agencies and the

private sector, including licensed well drillers, to serve on the groundwater

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coordinating committee.

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- 8 Sec. 2. 10 V.S.A. § 1395b is amended to read:
- 9 § 1395b. WATER WELL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
 - (a) The Vermont water well advisory committee is created. The committee shall consist of seven members: the director of the groundwater and water supply division, the state geologist, a representative from the department of health, and four members appointed by the governor. Three of the four public members shall be licensed well drillers, with at least five years of experience. The fourth public member shall be a person not associated with the well-drilling business who has an interest in wells and water quality.
 - (b) The purpose of the committee is to advise and assist agency personnel in the formulation of policy, including recommended statutory and regulatory changes, regarding the proper installation and maintenance of water wells, licensing of well drillers, and groundwater issues impacted by well-drilling activities. The committee shall promote and encourage cooperation and

1	communication between governmental agencies, licensed well drillers, and
2	members of the general public.
3	(c) Members shall be appointed for terms of five years, with the initial
4	appointments of the public members made for lesser terms, so that the
5	appointments do not all expire simultaneously. Vacancies shall be filled by the
6	governor for the length of an unexpired term.
7	(d) The committee shall elect a chair and a secretary, and shall meet from
8	time to time as may be necessary, but not less than quarterly.
9	(e) The public members of the committee shall be volunteers, and will
10	serve without compensation. [Repealed.]
11	Sec. 3. IMPLEMENTATION
12	(a) The terms of the members of the Vermont Water Well Advisory
13	Committee shall expire on the effective date of this act.
14	(b) The Secretary of Natural Resources may provide those members with
15	the opportunity to serve on the groundwater coordinating committee.
16	* * * Repeal of Valuation Appeal Board * * *
17	Sec. 4. 32 V.S.A. § 5407 is amended to read:
18	§ 5407. VALUATION APPEAL BOARD
19	(a) There is established a Valuation Appeal Board to consist of five
20	members. The members shall be appointed by the Governor with the advice
21	and consent of the Senate, for three-year terms beginning February 1 of the

year in which the appointment is made, except that one of the initial
appointments shall be for a term of one year and two of the initial
appointments shall be for a term of two years. A vacancy in the Board shall be
filled in the same manner as the original appointment for the unexpired portion
of the term vacated.
(b) Persons serving on the Appeal Board shall be knowledgeable and
experienced in at least one of the following fields: agriculture, business
management, law, taxation, appraisal and valuation techniques, municipal
affairs, or related areas. No member of the Valuation Appeal Board shall be
otherwise employed by the State or be a lister. In making appointments,
attention shall be given to the desirability of providing geographical balance to
the degree reasonably practical.
(c) A Chair shall be designated biennially by the Governor from among the
members of the Board and any vacancy in the Office of the Chair shall be
filled by designation of the Governor.
(d) Members of the Valuation Appeal Board shall receive a sum not to
exceed \$80.00 per diem for each day of official duties of the Board together
with reimbursement of reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of
their duties, as determined by the Director of Property Valuation and Review.

1	(e) The Board shall be attached for administrative purposes to the Division
2	of Property Valuation and Review of the Department of Taxes of the Agency
3	of Administration. [Repealed.]
4	Sec. 5. 32 V.S.A. § 5408 is amended to read:
5	§ 5408. PETITION FOR REDETERMINATION
6	(a) Not later than 35 days after mailing of a notice under section 5406 of
7	this title, a municipality may petition the Director of Property Valuation and
8	Review for a redetermination of the municipality's equalized education
9	property value and coefficient of dispersion. Such The petition shall be in
10	writing and shall be signed by the chair of the legislative body of the
11	municipality or his or her designee.
12	(b)(1) Upon receipt of a petition for redetermination under subsection (a) of
13	this section, the Director shall, after written notice, grant a hearing upon the
14	petition to the aggrieved town.
15	(2) The Director shall thereafter notify the town and the Secretary of
16	Education of his or her redetermination of the equalized education property
17	value and coefficient of dispersion of the town or district, in the manner
18	provided for notices of original determinations under section 5406 of this title.
19	(c)(1) A municipality, within 30 days of after the Director's
20	redetermination, may appeal the redetermination to the Valuation Appeal
21	Board. The Board shall notify the appellee of the filing of the appeal. The

1	appeal shall be heard de novo in the manner provided by 3 V.S.A. chapter 25
2	for the hearing of contested cases.
3	(d) A municipality or the Division of Property Valuation and Review may
4	appeal from a decision of the Valuation Appeal Board to the Superior Court of
5	the county in which the municipality is located. The Superior Court shall hear
6	the matter de novo in the manner provided by V.R.C.P. Rule 74 of the
7	Vermont Rules of Civil Procedure.
8	(2) An appeal from the decision of the Superior Court shall be to the
9	Supreme Court under the Vermont Rules of Appellate Procedure.
10	* * * Permitting Per Diems Currently Prohibited * * *
11	Sec. 6. 3 V.S.A. § 22 is amended to read:
12	§ 22. THE COMMISSION ON WOMEN
13	(a) $\underline{(1)}$ The Commission on Women is created as the successor to the
14	Governor's Commission on Women established by Executive Order No. 20-
15	86. The Commission shall be organized and have the duties and
16	responsibilities as provided in this section.
17	(2) The Commission shall be an independent agency of the government
18	of Vermont and shall not be subject to the control of any other department or
19	agency.
20	(3) Members of the Commission shall be drawn from throughout the
21	State and from diverse racial, ethnic, religious, age, sexual orientation, and

1	socioeconomic backgrounds, and shall have had experience working toward
2	the improvement of the status of women in society.
3	(b) The Commission shall consist of 16 members, appointed as follows:
4	(1) Eight members shall be appointed by the Governor; no, not more
5	than four of whom shall be from one political party.
6	(2)(A) Six Eight members shall be appointed by the legislature General
7	Assembly, three four by the Senate Committee on Committees, and three four
8	by the Speaker of the House; no.
9	(B) Not more than two appointees shall be members of the
10	legislature. Each General Assembly, and each appointing authority shall
11	appoint no not more than two members from the same political party.
12	(3) Two members, one each from the two major political parties.
13	(c) The terms of members shall be four years. Members of the
14	Commission currently appointed and serving pursuant to Executive Order No.
15	20-86 on July 1, 2002 may continue to serve for the duration of the four year
16	term to which they were appointed. As terms of currently serving members
17	expire, appointments of successors shall be in accord with the provisions of
18	subsection (b) of this section, and made in the following order:
19	(1) For terms expiring on June 30, 2002, two shall be made by the
20	Governor, one shall be made by the Committee on Committees and one shall
21	be made by the speaker.

1	(2) For terms expiring on June 30, 2003, two shall be made by the
2	Governor, and one each shall be made by the two major political parties.
3	(3) For terms expiring on June 30, 2004, two shall be made by the
4	Governor, one shall be made by the Committee on Committees and one shall
5	be made by the speaker.
6	(4) For terms expiring on June 30, 2005, two shall be made by the
7	Governor, one shall be made by the Committee on Committees and one shall
8	be made by the Speaker. Thereafter, appointments Appointments of members
9	to fill vacancies or expired terms shall be made by the authority that made the
10	initial appointment to the vacated or expired term.
11	(d)(1) Members of the Commission shall elect biennially by majority vote a
12	the Chair of the Commission.
13	(2) Members of the Commission shall receive no be entitled to receive
14	per diem compensation for their services, but shall be entitled to and
15	reimbursement for of expenses in the manner and amount provided to
16	employees of the State as permitted under 32 V.S.A. § 1010, which shall be
17	paid by the Commission.
18	* * *
19	(i)(1) No part of any funds appropriated to the Commission by the
20	legislature General Assembly shall, in the absence of express authorization by
21	the Legislature General Assembly, be used directly or indirectly for legislative

1	or administrative advocacy. The Commission shall review and amend as
2	necessary all existing contracts and grants to ensure compliance with this
3	subsection.
4	(2) For purposes of As used in this subsection, legislative or
5	administrative advocacy means employment of a lobbyist as defined in
6	2 V.S.A. chapter 11, or employment of, or establishment of, or maintenance of
7	a lobbyist position whose primary function is to influence legislators or State
8	officials with respect to pending legislation or regulations rules.
9	Sec. 7. COMMISSION ON WOMEN; CURRENT TERMS
10	A member of the Commission on Women on the effective date of this act
11	whose appointing authority is repealed under the provisions of Sec. 6 of this
12	act may serve the remainder of her or his term.
13	Sec. 8. 10 V.S.A. § 1372 is amended to read:
14	§ 1372. MEMBERS;; APPOINTMENT;; TERM
15	(a) Within 30 days after he or she has executed the compact Compact with
16	any or all of the states legally joined therein, the governor Governor shall
17	appoint three persons to serve as commissioners to the New England Interstate
18	Water Pollution Control Commission. The commissioner of environmental
19	conservation Commissioner of Environmental Conservation and the
20	commissioner of health Commissioner of Health shall serve as ex officio
21	commissioners thereon on the Commission.

1	(b) The commissioners so appointed shall hold office for six years.
2	Vacancies A vacancy occurring in the office of the commissioners a
3	commissioner shall be filled by the governor Governor for the unexpired
4	portion of the term.
5	(c) The commissioners shall serve without be entitled to per diem
6	compensation but shall be paid for their actual and reimbursement of expenses
7	incurred in and incident to the performance of their duties as permitted under
8	<u>32 V.S.A. § 1010</u> .
9	(d) The commissioners shall have the powers and duties and be subject to
10	limitations as set forth in the compact Compact.
11	* * * Joint Information Technology Oversight Committee * * *
12	Sec. 9. 2 V.S.A. chapter 18 is added to read:
13	CHAPTER 18. JOINT INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
14	OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
15	* * *
16	§ 614. JOINT INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY OVERSIGHT
17	<u>COMMITTEE</u>
18	(a) Creation. There is created the Joint Information Technology Oversight
19	Committee to oversee investments in and use of information technology in
20	<u>Vermont.</u>

1	(b) Membership. The Committee shall be composed of six members as
2	follows:
3	(1) three members of the House of Representatives, not all of whom
4	shall be from the same political party, who shall be appointed by the Speaker
5	of the House; and
6	(2) three members of the Senate, not all of whom shall be from the same
7	political party, who shall be appointed by the Committee on Committees.
8	(c) Powers and duties. The Committee shall oversee, evaluate, and make
9	recommendations on the following:
10	(1) the State's current deployment, management, and oversight of
11	information technology in the furtherance of State governmental activities,
12	including data processing systems, telecommunications networks, and related
13	technologies, particularly with regard to issues of compatibility among existing
14	and proposed technologies;
15	(2) issues related to the storage of, maintenance of, access to, privacy of,
16	and restrictions on use of computerized records;
17	(3) issues of public policy related to the development and promotion of
18	the private, commercial, and nonprofit information infrastructure in the State,
19	its relationship to the State government information infrastructure, and its
20	integration with national and international information networks; and
21	(4) cybersecurity.

1	(d) Assistance. The Committee shall have the administrative, technical,
2	and legal assistance of the Office of Legislative Council and the Joint Fiscal
3	Office.
4	(e) Meetings.
5	(1) The Speaker of the House and the Committee on Committees shall
6	appoint one member from the House and one member of the Senate as co-
7	chairs of the Committee.
8	(2) A majority of the membership shall constitute a quorum.
9	(3) The Committee may meet when the General Assembly is in session
10	or at the call of the co-chairs.
11	(f) Reimbursement. For attendance at meetings during adjournment of the
12	General Assembly, members of the Committee shall be entitled to per diem
13	compensation and reimbursement of expenses pursuant to 2 V.S.A. § 406.
14	* * * Sunset Advisory Commission * * *
15	Sec. 10. 3 V.S.A. § 268 is added to read:
16	§ 268. BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS; SUNSET ADVISORY
17	COMMISSION
18	(a) Creation.
19	(1) There is created the Sunset Advisory Commission to review existing
20	State boards and commissions, to recommend the elimination of any board or
21	commission that it deems no longer necessary or the revision of any of the

1	powers and duties of a board or commission, and to recommend whether
2	members of the boards and commissions should be entitled to receive per diem
3	compensation.
4	(2) As used in this section, "State boards and commissions" means
5	professional or occupational licensing boards or commissions, advisory boards
6	or commissions, appeals boards, promotional boards, interstate boards,
7	supervisory boards and councils, and any other boards or commissions of the
8	State.
9	(b) Membership.
10	(1) The Commission shall be composed of the following six members:
11	(A) two current members of the House of Representatives who shall
12	not both be from the same political party and one of whom shall be appointed
13	co-chair, who shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House;
14	(B) two current members of the Senate, who shall not both be from
15	the same political party and one of whom shall be appointed co-chair, who
16	shall be appointed by the Committee on Committees; and
17	(C) two persons appointed by the Governor.
18	(2) Members shall be appointed at the beginning of each biennium. A
19	member shall serve biennially and until his or her successor is appointed,
20	except that a legislative member's term on the Commission shall expire on the
21	date he or she ceases to be a member of the General Assembly.

1	(c) Powers and duties. The Commission shall have the following powers
2	and duties:
3	(1) Inventory; group; review schedule.
4	(A)(i) The Commission shall inventory all of the State boards and
5	commissions, organize them into groups, and establish a schedule to conduct a
6	review of one group each biennium.
7	(ii) The inventory shall include the names of the members of the
8	State boards and commissions, their term length and expiration, and their
9	appointing authority.
10	(B) The Commission shall provide its inventory of the State boards
11	and commissions to the Secretary of State for the Secretary to maintain as set
12	forth in section 116a of this title.
13	(2) Biennial review.
14	(A) Each biennium, the Commission shall review all of the State
15	boards and commissions within one of its inventoried groups and shall take
16	testimony regarding whether each of those boards and commissions should
17	continue to operate or be eliminated and whether the powers and duties of any
18	of those boards and commissions should be revised.

1	(B) In its review of each State board and commission, the
2	Commission shall consider:
3	(i) the purpose of the board or commission and whether that
4	purpose is still needed;
5	(ii) how well the board or commission performs in executing that
6	purpose; and
7	(iii) if the purpose is still needed, whether State government would
8	be more effective and efficient if the purpose were executed in a different
9	manner.
10	(C) Each board and commission shall have the burden of justifying
11	its continued operation.
12	(D) For any board or commission that the Commission determines
13	should continue to operate, the Commission shall also determine whether
14	members of that board or commission should be entitled to receive per diem
15	compensation and if so, the amount of that compensation.
16	(3) Biennial report. On or before the end of the biennium during which
17	it reviews a group, the Commission shall submit to the House and Senate
18	Committees on Government Operations its findings, any recommendation to
19	eliminate a State board or commission within that group or to revise the powers
20	and duties of a board or commission within the group, its recommendations
21	regarding board or commission member per diem compensation, and any other

1	recommendations for legislative action. The Commission shall also
2	specifically recommend whether there should be changes to the information the
3	Secretary of State provides in his or her inventory of the State boards and
4	commissions as set forth in 3 V.S.A. § 116a. The provisions of 2 V.S.A.
5	§ 20(d) (expiration of required reports) shall not apply to the report to be made
6	under this subsection.
7	(d) Assistance. The Commission shall have the administrative, technical,
8	and legal assistance of the Office of Legislative Council, the Joint Fiscal
9	Office, and the Agency of Administration.
10	(e) Compensation and expense reimbursement.
11	(1) For attendance at meetings during adjournment of the General
12	Assembly, a legislative member of the Commission shall be entitled to per
13	diem compensation and reimbursement of expenses pursuant to 2 V.S.A. § 406
14	for not more than five meetings per year. These payments shall be made from
15	monies appropriated to the General Assembly.
16	(2) Other members of the Commission shall be entitled to per diem
17	compensation and reimbursement of expenses as permitted under
18	32 V.S.A. § 1010 for not more than five meetings per year. These payments
19	shall be made from monies appropriated to the Agency of Administration.

1	Sec. 11. TRANSITIONAL PROVISION; INITIAL SUNSET ADVISORY
2	COMMISSION
3	The members of the initial Sunset Advisory Commission established in
4	3 V.S.A. § 268 in Sec. 10 of this act shall be appointed on or before
5	October 1, 2018 and shall meet prior to the 2019-2020 biennium in order to
6	inventory all of the State boards and commissions and organize them into
7	groups as described in Sec. 10 of this act in 3 V.S.A. § 268(c) so as to be able
8	to review all groups within two bienniums, and during the 2019-2020 biennium
9	those members shall conduct the first biennial review of a group in accordance
10	with that subsection.
11	Sec. 12. SUNSET OF THE SUNSET ADVISORY COMMISSION
12	3 V.S.A. § 268 (boards and commissions; Sunset Advisory Commission) is
13	repealed on January 4, 2023.
14	* * * Secretary of State; Inventory of Boards and Commissions * * *
15	Sec. 13. 3 V.S.A. § 116a is added to read:
16	§ 116a. MAINTENANCE OF INVENTORY OF STATE BOARDS AND
17	<u>COMMISSIONS</u>
18	(a)(1) The Secretary of State shall maintain and make available on his or
19	her official website an inventory of the State boards and commissions, and
20	shall update that inventory when changes are made that affect the information
21	provided in the inventory.

1	(2)(A) The inventory shall include the names of the members of each
2	State board and commission, their term length and expiration, and their
3	appointing authority.
4	(B) Each State board and commission shall be responsible for
5	providing to the Secretary of State this inventory information and any updates
6	to it.
7	(b) As used in this section, "State boards and commissions" means
8	professional or occupational licensing boards or commissions, advisory boards
9	or commissions, appeals boards, promotional boards, interstate boards,
10	supervisory boards and councils, and any other boards or commissions of the
11	State.
12	* * * Effective Dates * * *
13	Sec. 14. EFFECTIVE DATES
14	This act shall take effect on July 1, 2018, except that Sec. 13, 3 V.S.A.
15	§ 116a (Secretary of State; maintenance of inventory of State boards and
16	commissions) shall take effect on January 1, 2019.
17	
18	(Committee vote:)
19	
20	Senator
21	FOR THE COMMITTEE